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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

# **UTILITY APPLICATION**

**OF**

**MARGARET WEISER**

**FOR**

**UNITED STATES PATENT**

**ON**

**NOVELTY WITH INCORPORATED FAN**

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Attorneys

**CISLO & THOMAS LLP**

233 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 900  
Santa Monica, California 90401-1211

Tel: (310) 451-0647

Fax: (310) 394-4477

Customer No.: 25,189

[www.cislo.com](http://www.cislo.com)

# **NOVELTY WITH INCORPORATED FAN**

## **BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

### **Field of the Invention**

This invention relates to novelties of the type that may be used outdoors and  
5 having an active aspect such as a fan or spinner that is acted upon by the wind.

### **Description of the Related Art**

The prior art includes a number of novelty items having what may be considered  
fans or pinwheel components but none has incorporated a unique fan structure defining  
10 an enclosure having at least one support to rotatably mount the fan and wherein the fan  
is of lightweight material so that it is rotatably supported from at least one support and  
is adapted to rotatably move subject to fluid impingement thereon such as from the  
wind and wherein the central fan member is fabricated in such a manner as to be visibly  
discernable when incorporated in or with a whimsical, ornamental representation of an  
15 animal, insect, bird or the like.

## **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

Figure 1 is an elevational view of one embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 2 is a front view of the embodiment depicted in Figure 1;

20 Figure 3 is another elevational view of the embodiment depicted in Figure 1;

Figure 4 is a top view of the embodiment depicted in Figure 1;

Figure 5 is a view taken along the line 5-5 of Figure 3;

Figure 6 is a view taken along the line 6-6 of Figure 3;

Figure 7 is an enlarged, broken-away view showing how the rotating member of  
5 the invention is supported;

Figure 8 is an elevational view of another alternate embodiment of the  
invention; and

Figure 9 is a front view of the Figure 8 embodiment.

## 10 **DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT(S)**

The detailed description set forth below in connection with the appended  
drawings is intended as a description of presently preferred embodiments of the  
invention and is not intended to represent the only forms in which the present invention  
may be constructed and/or utilized. The description sets forth the functions and the  
15 sequence of steps for constructing and operating the invention in connection with the  
illustrated embodiments. However, it is to be understood that the same or equivalent  
functions and sequences may be accomplished by different embodiments that are also  
intended to be encompassed within the spirit and scope of the invention and the claims  
thereof. In other words, while the figures disclose certain animals in whimsical  
20 caricature form, it should be understood that other animals, fish, insects and the like are  
contemplated and same indeed are intended to be covered by the appended claims.  
These and other changes and modifications will make themselves apparent to those of  
ordinary skill in the art and also its changes and modifications will need not in fact

detract from the broad interpretations of the claims.

Referring to the figures of drawing wherein like numerals of reference designate like elements throughout it will be seen that novelty 2, here taking the configuration of a whimsical animal such as a snail, comprises a central fan member 4 defining a body  
5 representative of the snail and having at least one support 6 for rotatably supporting a pinwheel or fan member 8 by reason of axel or rod 10. An additional support 12 that is spaced apart and opposed to support 6 may be utilized so as to better support the fan 8 which is made of lightweight material, in this case being plastic or the like.

Opposed supports 6 and 12 are supported by radial supports 16 in order to lend  
10 stability to the structure.

Novelty 2 may have a support member such as plate 20 which supports the novelty 2 for placement on a surface such as grass, concrete or the like in ideally a position where the fan member 8 will be subjected to wind forces to thereby rotate the same to give dynamics or dynamism to novelty 2.

15 In this particular instance the body 4 is made up of a see through mesh-like material so that the rotating fan 8 may be viewed from various points of view of the novelty 2.

In many instances the novelty 2 will have general appendages that may be associated with the animal, insect, fish or the like being caricaturized and thus a spring  
20 neck 22 is secured by welding or the like to structure making up the body 4. Also attached to neck 22 is head 24 with an opposed tail 26, it being understood that the novelties being depicted are wholly whimsical in nature and thus free license may be

taken with respect to depicting in various forms the appendages that one would like to associate with animals, fish or insects.

In referring to Figures 8 and 9 there is seen another embodiment of the invention **40** here taking the configuration of a whimsical cat **40**. As earlier described with respect to the novelty **2**, the cat **40** has a central fan member **42** defining a body representative of an animal such as a cat or the like and has at least one support **44** to support in rotatably mounted fashion a lightweight fan member **46** wherein the fan **46** is adapted to rotatably move subject to fluid impingement thereon. Also included is a head member such as **48** representative of the cat **40** and of course other appendages such as the legs **50** and **52** may be utilized of various construction here shown as being of wire with of course the ubiquitous cat tail **54**. It will be noted that attached to each of the legs **50** and **52** is a stand or support member **58** for supporting the novelty **40**. Obviously, other support members may be utilized such as garden stakes or the like.

It should be noted that the body member **42** hereagain is of a see-through construction, whether mesh or otherwise so as to allow visual observance of the fan member **46** upon rotational movement in a garden setting or the like.

Various materials of construction may be utilized, but in the preferred form a light wire mesh has been found to be ideal for the body to be representative of the animal or the like comprising the novelty with lightweight plastic or metal for the fan member with metal or other material of construction for the appendages as well as head and tail members.

It should be understood that the main and central aspect of the invention

comprises a novelty having a fan member defining an enclosure and having at least one support to rotatably mount a fan, the fan being of lightweight material so as to be adapted to rotatably move subject to fluid impingement thereon and wherein the central fan member is fabricated of a see-through material whether it be wire mesh or otherwise and wherein the novelty may be supported from a plate, stake or other means of support, the variety and configurations of same will make themselves readily apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art.

Additionally, while the novelty items have been shown and depicted of certain animal species, it is intended also to be applicable to insects, fish and the like and it is also contemplated that the fan member defining the enclosure be separate and apart and not necessarily all encompassing of the creature to be depicted in a whimsical manner.

While specific materials of construction and configurations have been disclosed, those of ordinary skill in the art will at once recognize that various modifications are indeed possible as are various means of supporting the central fan member and same lends itself to being adapted to various depictions or utilized with various other novelties in a manner that is consistent with providing dynamic entertainment in a garden, deck, porch or the like environment and all such changes and modifications are intended to be covered by the appended claims.

While the present invention has been described with regards to particular embodiments, it should be recognized that additional variations of the present invention may be devised without departing from the inventive concept as disclosed herein.